

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 49, line 4, with the following rewritten paragraph:

By use of a monoclonal antibody and a biotin-labeled polyclonal antibody produced in Example 6, an optimum antibody under the improved measuring conditions determined in Example 13 was selected. Specifically, each EDTA-plasma sample was diluted with a buffer containing EDTA and a surfactant. Subsequently, the thus-diluted specimen was added to plates which had been coated with a variety of monoclonal antibodies. After washing of the plate, a monoclonal antibody was selected through a method including addition of a biotin-labeled polyclonal antibody. The optimum monoclonal antibody selected was PPMX 0102, which was deposited as ~~FERM AP-20395 BP-10326~~ to National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology, International Patent Organism Depository (Central 6th, 1-1 Higashi, Tsukuba City, Ibaraki, 305-8566, Japan).